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The Treaty of Peace proposed out of Paris, because of its attempt to close the war and to establish the peace of the world by means of one and the same instrument, has befogged both issues and produced distraction everywhere. Many believe that both the treaty and the Covenant as drawn and approved in Paris, are impossible of fulfillment. We are inclined to accept that view. Yet it ought to be possible for the Senate to extricate itself and the nation from the present intolerable situation without endangering any fundamental feature of American political principles. We can see but two ways to accomplish this: either by rejecting the treaty outright; or by ratifying it with reservations substantially as we have tried to indicate.

## THE PASSING OF UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING

NOTWITHSTANDING the President of the United States, the Secretary of War, the General Staff of the Army, and a majority of the members of the military committees of both houses of Congress, all of whom have committed themselves to approval of immediate or ultimate action establishing universal compulsory military training of the youth of the country, we do not believe that it will come to pass. It is quite true, as the President pointed out in his ineffective letter to the Democratic party's caucus, that "the present disturbed state of the world does not permit such sureness with regard to America's obligations as to allow us lightly to decide upon this great question upon purely military grounds." Quite so. But the decision, not arrived at lightly, is being made on grounds other than military.

Reports of trained newspaper investigators, sent into the heart of the country, whether they represent journals favoring or disapproving a large army and universal military training, agree in the verdict that the "plain people" of the country, whether in New England, the Mid-West, or in the South, do not believe in war a bit more than they did prior to 1914; that they are disillusioned as to the methods of war and post-war diplomacy; that the men who went across in the A. E. F. can not be relied upon to vote for a militarist policy, and that the House of Representatives, as at present constituted or as it may be altered by the next elections, will not be induced to vote for universal military training. Nor, so these reporters say, need any would-be President of the United States think that he will get the nomination because of his popularity with the returned soldiers or their kinsfolk on the basis of his military record.

These reports from the field are supported by the actions of Congress during the past month. Bills have been introduced calling for universal compulsory military training, with estimates as to the annual cost ranging from \$700,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000. They never will be passed by this Congress, partly because of ethical dissent and partly because of fiscal prudence. The taxpayer will not "stand" for any such raid on the Treasury now, and neither party dares to act as if he would. Hence the vote of the Democratic caucus postponing anything looking like approval of the plan, and this in spite of the President's plea for a non-committal course.

## ARE THE DYNASTIES DEAD?

WE in America are consumed with our own economic, industrial, financial, and class-conscious problems, so much so that we have not yet realized the "wrecks of matter and the crush of worlds" which seem to have taken place. Romanoff, Hohenzollern, and Hapsburg dynasties deemed but yesterday to be impregnable and within their spheres well nigh all-powerful, are for the time unhorsed, side-tracked, impotent. Are they dead?

As for the Romanoffs, they seem to be dead. The evidence is a bit obscure, but photographs are shown to us now indicating with some circumstantial detail that the Czar and his family are no more. In any event, we can not obtain the slightest evidence that there is a ghost of a chance of the return of any portion of this family to the seat of authority in Russia. There are many parties contending with each other in that mighty land, but none seems to be interested in the reincarnation of the Romanoffs.

There seems to be some life left in the Hohenzollerns. The Kaiser's name confronts us in the headlines almost daily; likewise that of the Crown Prince; but more, the friends of the Hohenzollerns in Germany are plotting. Among the opponents of the present republic, with its plebeian president, its socialist-clerical cabinet, there are not a few monarchists. Just how much life is left in the Hohenzollern organism is, however, difficult to ascertain. Our belief is that unless we insist upon breathing the breath of life into this far-from-beloved departed by some fatuous attempt at revenge, by some false move that may bedeck the former Kaiser with a martyr's crown, that this particular dynasty is dead beyond recall.

We are not sure about the Hapsburgs. If there be few of them in Austria, there are evidences that Hapsburg plotters are quite able to sit up and take notice in Hungary. So important are these gentlemen in that

section that the Council of Ambassadors in Paris, on February 2, felt it necessary, no doubt in the interest of the great principle of "self-determination," to send to the heads of the Hungarian State the following kindly advice:

"The principal allied powers feel called upon to give the most formal denial to misleading rumors that have been circulated to the effect that restoration of the Hapsburg dynasty would be promoted or recognized by them.

"The principal allied powers consider that such restoration of a dynasty which to its subjects represented a system of coercion and domination, in alliance with Germany, over other States, would not be consistent either with the principles for which this war has been fought nor with the results of the liberation of subject peoples which have been achieved.

"While it is not the intention, nor can it be considered the duty, of the principal allied powers to interfere in the internal affairs of Hungary, or dictate to the Hungarian people what sort of government and constitution they may think fit to adopt for themselves, the powers cannot admit that restoration of the Hapsburg dynasty can be considered merely as a matter interesting the Hungarian nation, and hereby declare that such restoration would be at variance with the whole basis of the peace settlement and would be neither recognized nor tolerated by them."

If after that the Hapsburg can still breathe, it must be agreed that he is no corpse.

### SMALL AXES FELL GREAT TREES

WE are asked to subscribe to a League of Nations banded because of the strength of their armies and fleets, and many think quite favorably of it because they are unmindful that true greatness in national aspiration and achievement may be found now, as often heretofore, in some little nation which we think not of. It is possible that the germs of greatness destined to mold nations in a hundred years are now working, say, in the Republic of Czecho-Slovakia. Masaryk's Academy of Labor, organized in Prague and supported in part from public funds and in part by private donations, has for its object the co-ordination of scientific and technical work of the new nation. For the purpose of economic elimination of waste and the increased production of wealth, economic, social, technical, and industrial problems are to be studied and the results of the investigations published for general use. The scheme originated with the Technical Economic Union of Prague. After investigation, this union came to the conclusion that the people of Bohemia and of the larger State of which it is in many respects a most important part needed the Academy of Labor for the conservation of labor energy and of other vital forces, spiritual and physical, quite as much as it needed museums for the preservation of relics of past ages, national art gal-

leries, theaters, and the other conventional "cultural" institutions peculiar to all advanced European urban centers. The Academy is to have seven departments—social, industrial, agricultural research, engineering, technology, and national and world economics. They are to be subordinate to the central authority for administrative purposes only. Some of them will be sustained and financed wholly by industrial interests. President Masaryk, who won the Republic's fight at Washington and Paris, thus seems to be about to set up a stable and intelligent nation. We are not surprised to learn that Columbia University of New York City, realizing that relations between the United States and Czecho-Slovaks are to be close, has arranged to provide classes hereafter in Bohemian history and language.

We have another illustration of incipient national greatness from out a land that is as yet no nation at all. We recently attended a meeting in Washington of the officials of the "Korean nation." It was an impressive little gathering. They issued a proclamation and demand for continued independence. The President and the Secretary of State spoke simply but affectingly. During the meeting one Rev. David Lee, speaking in the Korean language, offered a prayer, the translation of which is:

"O Lord, our God, the Lord of life, of love, of liberty, in whom alone we find the warrant for the brotherhood of man, we rejoice that in Thee not men alone, but nations, live and move and have their being. And now, in this solemn hour, we pray Thee to sanction what we do. As Thou didst bring Thy chosen people back, so do Thou deliver us from this more than Babylonian captivity. We ask this gift at Thy hand, not that as a nation we may be lifted up in pride and may obtain the power to oppress, but that we may be free to learn to worship Thee, to learn Thy truth, and to become a beacon light to those about us. We confess that we have deserved the chastisement that has been ours, but we pray Thee, Lord, to stay Thy hand and follow this just punishment with Thy healing and restoring mercy.

"Nor for ourselves alone would we pray, but also for those by whose hands Thou hast delivered chastisement. Make the wrath of man to praise Thee. Turn their hearts and teach them the futility of human pride, of martial glory, and grant that they may see the light and come to it.

"Upon the people of Korea grant Thy blessing, and upon those whom they have chosen to bring back the lost ark of their liberties. Give us wisdom, give us restraint, give us power to rule ourselves, to curb our passions, and to order our lives and conduct as a nation that we may become an instrument in Thy hand of building a national edifice, not founded on the pride of man, but upon the immutable verities of Thy truth. Into Thy hands we place ourselves, our lives, our hopes, to do as Thou shalt will. If we err, bring us back. If we are proud, chastise us. If we are recreant to the trust that has been laid upon us, do Thou find cleaner hands and purer hearts whereby to accomplish this great task; but, Father, though we falter, though we stumble, though we faint, do Thou forbid that the fire ever again should fall upon the altar of our native land.